

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing system comprising:

a first computer for preparing printing information;

a gateway server connected to the computer;

the first computer and the gateway server being provided to a printed matter preparer; and

a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address, which is provided to a printed matter customer,

the gateway server of the printed matter preparer being connected to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via an internet,

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information, the gateway server, in place of the first computer, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address.

2. A printing system comprising:

a first computer for preparing printing information, which is provided to a printed matter preparer;

a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address, which is provided to a printed matter customer; and

a gateway server provided to a transmission management center, to which the first computer and the printing apparatus are connected via an internet,

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet, the gateway server, in place of the first computer, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address.

3. A printing system comprising:

a first computer for preparing printing information, which is provided to a printed matter preparer;

a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address, which is provided to a printed matter customer;

a second computer; and

a gateway server,

the second computer and the gateway server being provided to a transmission management center, while the second computer and the gateway server being connected to each other,

the first computer of the printed matter preparer being connected to the second computer of the transmission management

center via an internet,

the gateway server of the transmission management center being connected to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via the internet,

wherein, when the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer is designated by the first computer of the printed matter preparer via the internet, and the printing information is transmitted to the second computer of the transmission management center, the second computer of the transmission management center issues a command for outputting the printing information, and the gateway server, after receiving the command for outputting the printing information, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address.

4. A printing system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer, which is provided to the gateway server; and

a third computer having an allocated IP address, which is provided to the printed matter customer,

the gateway server of the printed matter preparer being

connected to the printing apparatus and the third computer of the printed matter customer via an internet,

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates an IP address allocated to the self computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address, via the internet.

5. A printing system according to claim 2, further comprising:

a third computer having an allocated IP address, which is provided to the printer matter customer; and

a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer, which is provided to the gateway server of the transmission management center,

the first computer of the printed matter preparer being connected to the gateway server of the transmission management center via an internet,

the gateway server of the transmission management center being connected to the printing apparatus and the third computer of the printed matter customer via the internet,

the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer being stored in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet,

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates an IP address allocated to the self computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address, via the internet.

6. A printing system according to claim 3, further comprising:

a third computer having an allocated IP address, which is provided to the printed matter customer; and

a memory storing means for storing the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer, which is provided to the gateway server of the transmission management center,

the third computer of the printed matter customer being connected to the second computer of the transmission management center via the internet,

the gateway server of the transmission management center being connected to the printing apparatus and the third

computer of the printed matter customer via the internet,

the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer being stored in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet and the second computer of the transmission management center,

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates an IP address allocated to the self computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address, via the internet.

7. A printing method comprising:

providing a first computer for preparing printing information and a gateway server connected to the first computer to a printed matter preparer;

providing a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address to a printed matter customer; and

connecting the gateway server of the printed matter preparer to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer via an internet,

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing

apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information, the gateway server, in place of the first computer, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address.

8. A printing method comprising:

providing a first computer for preparing printing information to a printed matter preparer;

providing a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address to a printed matter customer; and

connecting the first computer and the printing apparatus to a gateway server provided to a transmission management center via an internet,

wherein, when the first computer of the printed matter preparer designates the IP address allocated to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet, the gateway server, in place of the first computer, issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address.

9. A printing method comprising:

providing a first computer for preparing printing information,
to a printed matter preparer;

providing a printing apparatus having an allocated IP address
to a printed matter customer;

providing a second computer and a gateway server connected
to the second computer to a transmission management center

connecting the first computer of the printing matter preparer
to the second computer of the transmission management center via
an internet,

connecting the gateway server of the transmission management
center to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer
via the internet,

wherein, when the IP address allocated to the printing
apparatus of the printed matter customer is designated by the first
computer of the printed matter preparer via the internet, and the
printing information is transmitted to the second computer of the
transmission management center, the second computer of the
transmission management center issues a command for outputting the
printing information, and the gateway server, after receiving the
command for outputting the printing information, issues a command
for outputting the printing information via the internet to the
printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the
allocated IP address.

10. A printing method according to claim 7, further comprising:

providing a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer to the gateway server;

providing a third computer having an allocated IP address to the printed matter customer; and

connecting the gateway server of the printed matter preparer to the printing apparatus and the third computer of the printed matter customer via an internet,

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates an IP address allocated to the self computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address, via the internet.

11. A printing method according to claim 8, further comprising:

providing a third computer having an allocated IP address to the printer matter customer;

providing a memory storing means for storing printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter

preparer to the gateway server of the transmission management center;

connecting the first computer of the printed matter preparer to the gateway server of the transmission management center via an internet;

connecting the gateway server of the transmission management center to the printing apparatus and the third computer of the printed matter customer via the internet,

storing the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet,

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates an IP address allocated to the self computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address, via the internet.

12. A printing method according to claim 9, further comprising:

providing a third computer having an allocated IP address to the printed matter customer;

providing a memory storing means for storing the printing

information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer to the gateway server of the transmission management center;

connecting the third computer of the printed matter customer to the second computer of the transmission management center via the internet;

connecting the gateway server of the transmission management center to the printing apparatus and the third computer of the printed matter customer via the internet; and

storing the printing information prepared by the first computer of the printed matter preparer in the memory storing means of the gateway server via the internet and the second computer of the transmission management center,

wherein, when the third computer of the printed matter customer designates an IP address allocated to the self computer and issues a command for outputting the printing information via the internet to the gateway server, the gateway server issues a command for outputting the printing information stored in the memory storing means to the printing apparatus of the printed matter customer, which has the allocated IP address, via the internet.